



WESTERN NEWS
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ASK EPA !!

Questions and Answers about Asbestos and EPA's

Q: Is EPA using part of the funding recently received to cleanup the Stimson Lumber Mill?

A: EPA's current plan is to clean the central maintenance building at the Mill this summer. Of the \$4 million that was recently added to EPA's cleanup budget for Libby, approximately \$600 thousand would be used for this property. The rest will go into residential and small business cleanups and emergencies.

Some community members believe that the money should go only to home cleanups. Other community members have clearly expressed eagerness to have the central maintenance building cleaned up so that jobs can be created through businesses that will be able to occupy the space.

EPA believes that cleaning residential properties and commercial properties concurrently benefits the whole community. EPA will continue to spend the majority of response dollars on residential cleanup. EPA's work at Stimson would also benefit the community by turning this contaminated property into an asset instead of a liability due to its current health risks.

EPA wants to hear more from the community on this issue before making a final decision about cleanup. Please send written comments to Wendy Thomi via email at thomi.wendy@epa.gov or submit your written comments- addressed to Wendy Thomi- to the EPA Information Center. Comments should be received by EPA by July 14, 2004.

For more information call toll free:

Wendy Thomi at 1-866-457-2690, ext. 5037 or
EPA Information Center at 293-6194